



Golden Showcase

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President's Message *with Joe Cruz*

Here we are at the beginning of a new year -- January 2008! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year. The Friends of the California State Fair had a great year and we have increased our membership.

As the year 2007 was coming to a close, we celebrated with our annual holiday party on December 11th. This year the holiday party was held at the Turf Club. It seems each year our holiday get together gets better and better. The Turf Club had an excellent atmosphere and we were able to mingle and visit with each other. Maybe one could say it was cozier as well. I'm not sure exactly how many attended the function, but it was the largest gathering we have had at our holiday parties. I was glad that I was able to meet many of you that evening. Ovarions did a wonderful job with the menu making some excellent changes and additions to the buffet. But the real person behind the success of our holiday party was Anne Jones. She did an excellent job, as always, in putting it together and attending to all the activities of the night. Perhaps Mark Kramer might have had something to do with the desserts; they were absolutely decadent. So I thank both of you for your outstanding efforts.

At the holiday party we give out the volunteer awards. This year, two President's awards were given. One was given to Dixie Van Allen who did a great job of scheduling our members in the various shifts throughout the California State Fair. The other award went to Pam Howard. She also did an excellent job throughout the year in scheduling members for the county fair, the farm tours, the administrative mailings and the phone tree to list a few. As you can see both of these members were very deserving of the award. I thank you both. We also gave out Star Awards to members for outstanding service during the State Fair. The annual year pins were given out. Pins were given for 1 year, 5 years, 10 years, 15 years, 20 years, and 25 years

service. Noteworthy were Ruth Ann and Chuck Hines who received 25-year pins.

With our increased membership base, we had a great turnout for the California State Fair, and the Friends contributed too many projects that helped Cal Expo. Those of you who attended the California State Fair and walked back to the farm could see our efforts and how that area has expanded. It was a definite improvement and those who worked there wanted to do more shifts. Another project that the Friends undertook was the poster contest for the school kids. We will be conducting this poster contest again in 2008.

As I mentioned at the holiday party, we have a link on the Cal Expo website. This past year I have been working on updating the Friends' information on the sites. Volunteers who have Internet access can view this information at "www.CalExpo.com" or "www.BigFun.org" and follow the links to the Friends' website. You will see that our newsletter is now included at these sites. It will have many interesting articles and information for future events. We have been working on the newsletter to make it more interesting and appealing. So I hope that every member takes the time to read the newsletter. It has a lot of information about the events being planned.

In closing, your volunteer board for the year 2008 is as follows. I will continue as President; Anne Jones as Vice President; Romaine Bubnes as Secretary; and Mark Kramer as Treasurer. Trustees are: Harry Moos, Mike Evans, Joyce Evans, Cindy Frazier, Pam Howard, Marty Hull, and Carla Knee We look forward to another year in service to the Friends of the California State Fair. If you ever have a question, please feel free to call any one of us; we'll be happy to help.

Joe



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2008 California State Fair ~ August 15-September 1, 2008



2007/2008 *with Anne Jones*

Hi All! Can you believe that 2007 is gone and we're into 2008? The other day I wrote 1988 on a check...obviously I'm not ready for 2008!

Anyway, here we are getting ready for another California State Fair. On March 11 we will have our first sign-ups...I know a lot of you feel that it is too early in the year to know what your schedule is going to be in August/September, but it's been proven these past couple years that it really works well to start this early, so please hang in there with us and sign up early.

Following is a great explanation of the 2008 events from Pam Howard and a new volunteer form. Please read all of it and fill out the form...but most important, MAIL it to Pam! She can only do her best when she has all the needed info.

You will see an article from Harry following this that tells about this year's Fair – mainly that the Fair is running from August 15 through September 1; straight through. That's right, no Mondays off! I, myself, had gotten so I really liked those regroup days, but I understand the Fair's thoughts in not having breaks during the Fair.

Speaking of Harry...the award he received at the holiday party (Western Fairs Association Blue Ribbon Award) is a wonderful acknowledgment of his dedication to the Fair and to this organization. Hats off to you Harry; you brought us (kicking and screaming) into this century and have propelled us forward onto solid ground. Thank you and congratulations.



2007 President's Award

Pam Howard & Dixie Van Allen

2007 Star Awards

Veronica Cofer, Dave Griffin, Chuck & Ruth Ann Hines, Wilma Keith, Kathy Koeller, Sherry Kreutzer, Carole Morgan, Jack Vinsant, & Sue Westerfeld

Those who were not present to receive their awards at the holiday party will receive them at the March General Membership meeting or Orientation.

Give them all a big hand!



Happy New Year *with Harry Moos*

Our holiday party was great because all of you attended to applaud each other for a job well done in 2007! We loved seeing the Cal Expo Staff; they are already working very hard for this year's Fair to be the best Fair we have ever had! The first thing is it will run straight through from August 15–Sept 1 and Mondays are not off! Dixie will work extra hard to fill the Mondays shift this year and after your great amount of volunteer hours last year it shouldn't be a problem.

The Friends are all about the Scholarship program and it is on the web site currently; applications are due by March 21 and are open to all students within California.

The Grape and Gourmet is on July 10 and the Gala will be on Friday, August 8. The Sale of Champions will be held on during the Fair on Monday, August 18; this annual event puts monies directly into the scholarship fund.

One last thing...I would like to thank all of you and the Cal Expo Staff for helping me get the Western Fairs Association Blue Ribbon Award. This award is a big deal for the Friends organization and without this superb membership backing me up I would not have been the recipient. It may have been given to me, but it really belongs to all of us. Thank you.





Greetings to All *from Pam Howard*

January begins an all-new Fair year and with it, many great opportunities to volunteer. The Sacramento County Fair is May 22 to May 26. The State Fair is August 15 to September 1. Volunteer sign-ups will start at the March 11, FOF General Membership meeting. People will be contacted in January/February for Spring Farm Tour sign-ups and training, and/or other projects as needed.

Various volunteer staffing positions include mailings, entry receipt/pick-up, judging, Gala, Grape and Gourmet, Farm Tours, phone tree, and Sac County and State Fairs. Occasionally, there are special projects for us to support. I will attempt to concisely describe each type of general project area, some of which may apply to both the County and State Fair. After you have read about the available activities, please review the Volunteer Profile Form, check your areas of interest and times available, and mail to me at Friends of the California State Fair, P.O. Box 660022, Sacramento, CA, 95866-0022. Even if you filled out a volunteer profile last year, please fill out one again with your current information, preferences and phone number (include e-mail address if applicable). If you have any questions, please call me @ (916) 837-0345. You can also e-mail me at phoward@smud.org

Mailings: They start as early as February and continue up to fair opening. Typically volunteers are scheduled for mornings 9-1, although large projects may take longer. We assemble flyers, stuff envelopes, and apply address stickers. Occasionally we may assemble and stuff box mailers for the children's Poppy Club.

Entry Receipt/Pick-up: These can be all day, or 9am-1pm and 1-5 pm, weekdays or Saturday. For the County Fair, this activity is scheduled for May. For the State Fair, it occurs in June and July. State Fair food competition entries are typically received 7-11 am on the day of judging, and County Fair baked foods receipt is scheduled for Monday, May 19, 2:30 pm to 7 pm. We physically receive the entries; verify the correct information on the entry paperwork; and tag/sort for judging. Post judging we staff non-accepted entry pick-up, and all-entry pick-up on the Friday/Saturday following fair closing

(County Fair check-out is Monday, May 26, 7-9 pm).

Judging: Typically can be any weekday, 8 am to 5 pm. Split shifts are available for morning or afternoon if you want to help but cannot stay the entire day. State Fair food judging usually is noon to 5pm on a weekday during the Fair. Our role is to verify the correct score card with the proper entry, clerk for individual judges, record scores, sort non-accepted entries from award winners for advanced award judging, and verify all scores/awards to a master list. For the food judging, we physically gather/sort entries for each class, verify the score cards match the entries, present each entry at its best to the judge, record judging comments/scores, and post scores to entry forms and the master list.

Phone Tree: This is a group of people willing and able to call members (e-mail if applicable) in order to assemble a crew to fill a particular request for volunteers. Occasionally, through no fault of ours, the phone tree may be activated on extremely short notice. Each phone tree member will be responsible for a small portion of the FOF volunteer list.

Farm Tours: Scheduled for Spring (April/May), Fall (October/November), and August during the State Fair, the tours are typically Tuesday and Thursday, 9:45 am to noon. Volunteers teach 5-9 year old school children how to identify, plant, grow, and harvest farm produce, with an emphasis on healthy eating habits. The tours are held in the Cal Expo Farm area and include the greenhouse and occasionally a special animal station. Scripts are available for our role at each station and there is a TBA special training/orientation day in March for the Friends and the Master Gardener volunteers who work with us.

Gala: The annual fundraising affair to benefit the FOF scholarship fund and other projects. Our volunteer role is to staff guest check-in, offer information to guests, provide security before, during and after the silent auction, and be runners for payment slips and merchandise to successful bidders during and after the live auction. This year the Gala will be on Friday, August 8. Shifts will be noon to 5 pm and 5-10 pm.





Grape and Gourmet: This event is the official State Fair showcase of the commercial wine competition winners. It includes tasting of the winners, wine sales, and gourmet food and beverage exhibits. This year the event is on Thursday, July 10. Shifts will be noon to 4:30 pm and 4-9 pm. Our role is to provide security at all the doors of the California Building A&B. Everyone entering, including volunteers, must have proper credentials.

Sacramento County Fair: Scheduled this year for Thursday, May 22, thru Monday, May 26. We provide staff for mailings, entry receipt/pick-up, judging, and security/information during the fair for Building D exhibits. Information on Sac County Fair competitions, entry rules and deadlines are available on their website www.sacfair.com.

State Fair: Scheduled this year for Friday, August 15-Monday, September 1. We support Cal Expo with staff mailings, entry receipt/pick-up, judging, information booths at the Expo Center, 9/11 Memorial and the California Building A/B, Snack Shack, Coke Booth, Friday Bingo, the Farm Produce Stand, and other duties as required. Orientation will be Saturday, August 9 (I promise it will be informative). Information concerning State Fair competitions, entry rules and deadlines are posted on the website www.bigfun.org.



2008 Friends of the California State Fair Board

Joe Cruz	President	608-8937
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Anne Jones	Vice President	716-8823
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Romaine Bubnes	Secretary	344-7131
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Email: zipcarla@sbcglobal.net		





2008 Friends of the California State Fair

Volunteer Profile

Please complete the following form and mail to:

Pam Howard - Friends of the CA State Fair

PO Box 660022

Sacramento, CA 95866-0022

Name _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Please Check each box that You are interested in working

- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. State Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Phone Tree | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. County Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Grape & Gourmet | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Farm Tours | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Gala | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Mailings | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Other Events | <input type="checkbox"/> |

What days & times are you available?

Morning ☐ Afternoon ☐ Evening ☐

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional comments:



Mark Your Calendar

General Membership Meeting & Sign-ups

Tuesday, March 11

6 pm sign-ups; 6:45 pm board meeting

Admin Bldg, Cal Expo...please use the side entrance

Friends of the California State Fair Orientation

Saturday, August 9

Grape & Gourmet

Thursday, July 10

Gala

Friday, August 8



Friends of the California State Fair ★
PO Box 660022
Sacramento, CA 95866-0022